

1 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
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3 A surgical scissors includes two cutting blades
4 operable via a handle. One of the blades is provided with
5 a distally projecting needle-like tip which can easily
6 pierce tissue. In use, the tip on the blade is gently
7 pressed against a vessel, preferably at a shallow angle
8 relative to the vessel, to define an entry hole. This
9 shallow angle approach with the needle-like piercing tip
10 reduces the opportunity for inadvertent puncture. The
11 lower blade is then pushed further through the entry hole
12 in alignment with the piercing tip such that the cutting
13 blade portion of the lower blade also enters the vessel.
14 The handle is then operated to cause the blades cut the
15 vessel tissue therebetween to create the incision. The
16 instrument of the invention facilitates making lengthwise
17 incisions in vessels by eliminating offline cutting, and
18 substantially reducing the likelihood of cutting the
19 posterior vessel wall.